

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 275683

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CA, US

SUBJECT:LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS

1. ON JULY 29 THE IJC WROTE THE USG AND GOC PROPOSING INCREASED COORDINATION BETWEEN THE US AND CANADA REGARDING RESEARCH ON THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS. THE COMMISSION SUGGESTED THAT THEY, OR THEIR INTERNATIONAL AIR POLLUTION ADVISORY BOARD, SERVE AS THE FOCUS OF SUCH COORDINATION. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE COMMISSION'S SUGGESTION WITH INTERESTED USG AGENCIES AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT SUCH COORDINATION MAY BEST BE EFFECTED BY DIRECT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF EPA AND ENVIRONMENT CANADA. PARA 4 IS A DRAFT LETTER TO THIS EFFECT TO THE COMMISSION, WHICH THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AT EXTAFF (SHARPE) FOR THEIR COMMENT. IF THE GOC AGREES WITH THE BASIC THRUST OF OUR LETTER FAVORING
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DIRECT CONSULTATIONS, WE ARE PREPARED TO COORDINATE A JOINT RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION, TO BE SENT PRIOR TO THE MEETING SUGGESTED PARA. 2.

2. TO INITIATE DIRECT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, FOLLOWING UP ON OUR EARLIER SUGGESTION REGARDING LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT (STATE 242756), EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK

INITIAL GOC VIEWS ON A MEETING OF APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS FROM EPA AND ENVIRONMENT CANADA, TO BE HOSTED BY EPA POSSIBLY AT THEIR FACILITY IN RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NORTH CAROLINA, EARLY IN 1978. WE SEE SUCH A MEETING AS BRINGING TOGETHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

I. COORDINATION OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT RESEARCH.

II. METHODOLOGIES FOR MONITORING THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS.

III. METHODS FOR ASSESSING THE HEALTH HAZARDS AND ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF SUCH SUBSTANCES.

4. SUGGESTED RESPONSE TO THE IJC:

DEAR MR. BULLARD:

FURTHER TO MY LETTER TO YOU OF AUGUST 8, 1977, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA HAVE REVIEWED THE SUGGESTION MADE IN THE COMMISSION'S LETTER OF JULY 29, 1977, REGARDING COORDINATION OF RESEARCH BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS. WE APPRECIATE THE COMMISSION'S DRAWING THIS MATTER TO OUR ATTENTION AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE PURPOSES ENUMERATED BY THE COMMISSION COULD BEST BE SERVED BY ESTABLISHING DIRECT ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE RESPONSIBLE

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U.S. AND CANADIAN OFFICIALS.

ACCORDINGLY, THE GOVERNMENTS ARE DISCUSSING A POSSIBLE MEETING EARLY IN 1978 TO BETTER INTEGRATE THEIR PROGRAMS REGARDING LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT, NOT ONLY AS THEY RELATE TO RESEARCH BUT ALSO IN THE AREA OF MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES.

A LETTER EXPRESSING A SIMILAR CONCLUSION WILL, I UNDERSTAND, BE SENT TO THE CANADIAN SECTION OF THE COMMISSION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SINCERELY YOURS, RICHARD D. VINE. VANCE

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